

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 003029

EXDIS FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MARR, PFOR, TU

SUBJECT: US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT: NEGOTIATION OF AGREED ARRANGEMENTS

REF: ANKARA 100

1. WE AGREE FULLY THAT THERE IS A NEED TO CLEAR UP ANY POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND EMBASSY CONCERNING HOW BEST TO MAKE PROGRESS IN AGREED ARRANGEMENT NEGOTIATIONS OVER NEXT FEW WEEKS. WE HOPE TO DISPATCH OUR DETAILED COMMENTS ON THE TURKISH DRAFT INCIRLIK AA JAN. 6 AND WE HAVE IN PROCESS COMPLETE COUNTERDRAFT FOR YOUR USE AS A TOOL FOR HELPING TO REACH A COMPROMISE ON WHAT WE FORESEE TO BE A SERIES OF COMPLICATED AND CONTENTIOUS ISSUES. IN ADVANCE OF COUNTERDRAFT, WE PLAN TO PROVIDE YOU WITH DETAILED COMMENTS AND COMPREHENSIVE INSTRUCTIONS.

2. WE WOULD BE GLAD FOR YOUR POL/MIL COUNSELOR ALBERT
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FRANCIS TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON FOR DISCUSSIONS HERE NEXT WEEK. HOWEVER, YOU MIGHT WISH TO DEFER FRANCIS' TRAVEL UNTIL YOU HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW COMMENTS ON INCIRLIK AA AND POSSIBLY HAVE ONE FURTHER ROUND WITH MFA BEFORE DECIDING WHEN FRANCIS SHOULD MOST USEFULLY COME. IN ADDITION, DOD AND STATE HAD BEEN PLANNING FOR SMALL TEAM OF

WASHINGTON EXPERTS TO VISIT ANKARA FOR FEW DAYS LATER IN JANUARY A) TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WASHINGTON TAKES NEGOTIATION OF AGREED ARRANGEMENTS VERY SERIOUSLY; B) PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THOROUGHLY WITH YOU, FRANCIS AND DOD MEMBERS OF NEGOTIATING TEAM PROBLEMS WHICH EXIST AS WELL AS OUR EXPERIENCE WITH GREEK DCA AND ITS ANNEXES; AND C) ENABLE WASHINGTON REPRESENTATIVES POSSIBLY TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH TURKISH NEGOTIATORS AND/OR SIT IN AS OBSERVERS AT NEGOTIATING SESSION.

3. ONE OF PROBLEMS WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED RECENTLY STEMS FROM TURKISH TABLING OF AN ALMOST COMPLETE DRAFT OF AGREED ARRANGEMENT FOR INCIRLIK. WE ALSO NOW BELIEVE IT MAY NOT HAVE BEEN WISE TO GET INTO NEGOTIATION OF ISOLATED ISSUES BEFORE WE HAD TIME TO DIGEST THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT AND DEVELOP A COHERENT NEGOTIATING STRATEGY OF OUR OWN. WE ARE TRYING TO COMPLETE THIS PROCESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS NOTED IN PARA 1 ABOVE.

4. WE HAD HOPED THAT GUIDANCE ON THREE KEY ISSUES WOULD HAVE GIVEN SUFFICIENT BASIS TO KEEP DISCUSSIONS GOING UNTIL WE WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE MORE COMPREHENSIVE INSTRUCTIONS. WE STILL HOPE THAT ISSUES CAN BE EXPLORED FURTHER ON BASIS PREVIOUS INSTRUCTIONS AND EFFORT MADE TO ACHIEVE CONCEPTUAL AGREEMENT ON THESE.

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5. PLEASE ASSURE THE TURKS THAT WE ARE AS WILLING AS THEY TO COMPLETE THESE NEGOTIATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ONCE OUR DUCKS ARE IN LINE, WE SEE NO REASON WHY DISCUSSIONS CANNOT PROCEED AT THE RAPID PACE THEY DESIRE.

6. PLEASE LET US KNOW WHETHER IN LIGHT OF ABOVE YOU WISH FRANCIS TO BEGIN CONSULTATIONS JAN. 9 OR WHETHER TO DEFER HIS VISIT UNTIL AFTER WASHINGTON TEAM HAS BEEN TO TURKEY AND/OR YOU HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY REVIEW FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS TO BE SENT JAN. 6. IN THE EVENT OF FRANCIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, WE WOULD HOPE THAT FRANCIS WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY ONE OR MORE MILITARY MEMBERS OF NEGOTIATING TEAM. CHRISTOPHER

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